

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /054 W

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O R 101145Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

TO AMEMBASSY MADRID IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 436

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

S E C R E T YAOUNDE 4733

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, PS, EK, CM

SUBJECT: EQUATORIAL GUINEA REPORTED ARREST GOEG MINISTERS

REF: (A) MADRID 9294; (B) YAOUNDE 4724; (C) YAOUNDE 127/75;

(D) 75 DOUALA A-9

1. DEC 10 DCM SPOKE WITH SPANISH CHARGE JUSTE CONCERNING EVENTS REPORTED REFTELS. JUSTE SAID HE HAS NOTHING MORE THAN ADDITIONAL RUMORS WHICH SUPPORTED ORIGINAL LIBREVILLE REPORT AND INDICATED THAT FOREIGN MINISTER AND DANIEL OYONO WERE NOT UNDER DETENTION. HE DID NOT KNOW WHO HAD BEEN DETAINED.

2. SPANISH CHARGE MALABO ANTONIO SANCHEZ JARA HAD JUST RETURNED HIS POST FROM TRIP TO SPAIN AND JUSTE ATTEMPTED SEND PLANE BRING HIM TO DOUALA TODAY. HE INFORMED CHARTERS COULD NOT LAND MALABO TODAY, BUT FLIGHTS MIGHT BE POSSIBLE TOMORROW. JUSTE SAYS HE DOES NOT KNOW WHAT IS GOING ON AND HOPES SEE SANCHEZ ASAP IN ORDER OBTAIN CLARIFICATION SITUATION. HE CONFIRMED THAT SPANISH EMBASSY MALABO MUST SEND ALL TRAFFIC THROUGH LOCAL EG TELEGRAPH FACILITIES.

4. COMMENT: DANIEL OYONO, FAVORITE NEPHEW OF MACIE AND FORMER SECRETARY GENERAL PUNT, HAS BEEN ASCENDING POWER DURING PAST TWO YEARS. HE HAS BEEN ACTING SECRETARY GENERAL IN PRESIDENCY AND WITHIN PAST SIX MONTHS HAS ASSUMED POSITION OF HEADING SECURITY AND FINANCE MINISTRIES, ALTHOUGH IN FACT HE MAY NOT HAVE TITLE OF MINISTER. HE ATTENDED RECENT IMF-WORLD BANK

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MEETINGS AS EG REPRESENTATIVE. HE HAS ALSO BEEN DE FACTO

DICTATOR OF ISLAND IN FREQUENT ABSENCE OF MACIE. MOST DIPLOMATS RESIDENT MALABO CONSIDER HIM NASTY PEICE OF BUSINESS, CAPABLE OF DOING ANYTHING FURTHER HIS OWN ENDS. DCM MET HIM LEADING RECONNAISSANCE SHORTLY AFTER 8 NIGERIANS HAD LOST THEIR LIVES JAN 8, 1976 ATTACK BY EG AUTHORITIES ON THOSE AWATING SHIP LOADING (REF C). MANY SUSPECTED AT TIME HE BEHIND ATTACK. OTHERS SUSPECT OYONO BEHIND FEB 9, 1975 "SUICIDE" FORMER VP EDMUNDO BOSIO DIOCO (REF D).

5. AT PRESENT THERE INSUFFICIENT INFORMATION DRAW ANY DEFINITE CONCLUSIONS ON ARRESTS REPORTED REFTELS. HOWEVER, ONLY TWO CABINET LEVEL OFFICIALS KNOWN NOT TO BE DETAINED: FOREIGN MINISTER (BONIFACIO) NGUEMA ESONO NCHAMA AND DANIEL OYONO ARE MONGONO FANG FACTION (SAME AS PRESIDENT MACIE). FURTHERMORE, FORMER VP MIGUEL EYEGUE NTUTUMU IS LEADER MICOMESENG FANG FACTION (AS IS HIS BROTHER ANGEL MASIE NTUTUMU, FORMER VICE MINISTER HEALTH AND SECRETARY TO PRESIDENT, WHO PROBABLY WOULD ALSO BE DETAINED). BROTHERS NTUTUMU KNOWN OYONO ADVERSARIES (REF D). OF THE OTHERS DETAINED, (NOBERTO) NSUE MICHA IS THOUGHT BE EBEBIYIN FANG, NSI MBA COMES FROM NEAR SOUTHERN BORDER WITH GABON, WHILE OCHAGA NGOMO ABESO IS MONGOMO FANG. TENTATIVELY ONE MIGHT SPECULATE THAT PRESIDENT'S MONGONO FANG (AND HENCE DANIEL AND BONIFACIO) HAVE GAINED WHILE OTHER FANG FACTIONS HAVE LOST.

6. EXACT CAUSE AND EFFECT DANIEL OYONO IN ALL OF THIS DIFFICULT ASSESS. IF HE REMAINS ON TOP IN MACIE'S ESTIMATION, THEN HIS ENEMIES WILL BE EVEN MORE INTIMIDATED. MUST BE OBSERVED, HOWEVER, THAT ONE OF PLACARDS PROMINENTLY OBSERVED ALL NATIONAL PARADES READS: "DOWN WITH THE AMBITIOUS ONES." DANIEL IS YOUNG AND KNOWN FOR HIS AMBITION. AND, EVENTUALLY, EVEN PARANOIDS MAY LOSE WHATEVER FRIENDS THEY MAY HAVE.
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